

SENATE BILL 143

By Kyle

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49; Title 63; Title 67 and Title 68, relative to hygiene products for women and children.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 1, is amended by adding the following as a new part:

**68-1-2701.** Subject to appropriations, the department of health shall provide free diapers to a Tennessee resident who is a new mother or a working parent or guardian of a child less than two (2) years old upon the resident's request. The department shall prominently display on the department's website instructions for requesting free diapers. This section does not apply to a resident or guardian of a resident child who participates in the state's free diaper program as a recipient of the TennCare medicaid program or a successor to the program provided for in the Medical Assistance Act of 1968, compiled in title 71, chapter 5, or as an enrollee in the CoverKids program or a successor to the program provided for in the CoverKids Act of 2006, compiled in title 71, chapter 3, part 11.

**68-1-2702.** The department of health shall collaborate with the department of human services, and other state agencies as the department deems appropriate, to create a public health campaign dedicated to providing diapers to new mothers and working parents or guardians using funds specifically appropriated for this purpose during the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-417(a)(1), is amended by deleting "public high school" and substituting instead "public school, including a public charter school,".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-417(a), is amended by adding the following as a new, appropriately designated subdivision:

( ) "Public charter school" has the same meaning as defined in § 49-13-104;

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-417(b), is amended by deleting "Each LEA is authorized to" and substituting instead "Each LEA and public charter school shall" and by inserting "regularly used by students in grades four through twelve (4-12)" immediately after "all women's and girl's bathrooms and locker rooms".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-417, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

(c) The state shall reimburse each LEA and public charter school that provides feminine hygiene products pursuant to this section in an amount equal to the cost of the products paid by the LEA or public charter school pursuant to this section.

(d) The department of health shall collaborate with the state board of education, and other state agencies as the department deems appropriate, to create a public health campaign dedicated to encouraging individuals and nonprofit organizations to contribute or drop off feminine hygiene products to eligible schools.

SECTION 6. Section 1 of this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. All other sections of this act take effect July 1, 2025, the public welfare requiring it, and apply to the 2025-2026 school year and each school year thereafter.